## **United States Patent Application**

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pack remains locked within the dispenser upon retrieval of the bottom-most bandage which is exposed through the slotted opening.

Directly beneath the slotted opening 6 through which said bandages are removed, is a compartment 14 designed to hold the casing 3 of the bandages which remains after each bandage is retrieved from the dispenser. The base of the dispenser 7 is preferably designed to allow for a large enough compartment 14 to accommodate each of the remaining casings of said bandage pack.

In the fully opened position of the dispenser, i.e., when the cover is pivoted away from the base as far as it will go, as shown in FIG. 4, a bandage pack may be inserted easily into the top half of the dispenser where it will be held in position by a simple clamp 13. Note that the bandage pack is angled at this juncture to exert a downward force on the bandages towards the retrieval opening, facilitating the advancement of each contiguous bandage upon retrieval of each bandage underneath. One bandage is then inserted through the slotted opening 6, and the cover is pivoted towards the base of the dispenser until said cover is flush against said base. A finger grip 12 located on each of the lower left-hand corners of the side walls of the cover, as shown in FIGS. 2-6, is provided to facilitate the opening and pivoting of said cover to load said bandages.

The bandage pack is locked into the dispenser by a snap feature at the corner end opposite the bandage retrieval opening. There are attachment pins 10, extended outwardly from the side walls of the base, located in the corner end opposite the bandage retrieval opening in order to attach the cover and base firmly together. There is a corresponding set of holes on the cover which receive said pins.

A self-adhesive backing or a pair of screws may be formed on the bottom wall of the base 7, as positioned in FIGS. 5-6, for the purpose of mounting the dispenser upon a wall.

## **CLAIMS:**

- 1. An adhesive bandage dispenser system, comprising
  - a pack of separable adhesive bandages releasably joined at one end, and having separation strips interconnecting adjacent bandages,
  - a dispenser frame shaped to hold the bandages, having a slot through which bandages may be pulled one at a time, including an internal holder for securing the joined end of the stack of bandages in position so that the end of a bandage to be dispensed protrudes out of the slot, the separation strip pulling the next bandage into dispensing position when one bandage is pulled out of the slot.
- 2. The system of claim 1, wherein opposite ends of each separation strip are secured respectively toward the dispensing end of one bandage and to the dispensing end or body of the adjacent bandage directly above said bandage.

- 3. The system of claim 1, wherein the dispenser has a front wall and a flange element extending inwardly from the front wall a sufficient distance so as to overlie at least a portion of the bandage pack so as to prevent removal of the pack from the slot, but permit removal of individual bandages.
- 4. A pack of dispensable bandages designed to be pulled by a dispensing end through an opening one at a time, releasably joined at the end opposite the dispensing end, and having a separation strip joining adjacent bandages by being secured toward the dispensing end of one bandage and to the dispensing end or body of the adjacent bandage.
- 5. A bandage dispenser, comprising
  - a frame, shaped and sized to hold a pack of bandages,
  - a bandage dispensing opening defined in said frame, and
- a clamp releasably securing the bandage pack so that one bandage can be removed at a time through the opening.
- 6. A method of dispensing bandages, comprising

releasably joining a stack of bandages at one end,

securing the joined end of the bandage pack,

arranging the end of a first bandage in the pack to protrude through a bandage dispensing opening, and

feeding one bandage at a time through the opening by pulling the first bandage out of the opening so that the first bandage draws the dispensed end of the adjacent bandage directly above said bandage into position in the opening.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising

interconnecting adjacent bandages in the stack with separation strips.